

Appln. No. 09/387.659
Filed: August 31, 1999

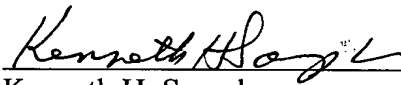
PATENT
Attny. Docket No. 66427

Claims 1-14 were rejected in the Office Action for "same invention" type double patenting under 35 U.S.C. §101 as claiming the same invention as that of claims 1-13 of prior U.S. Patent No. 5,684,372 (the '372 patent). Applicants have canceled claims 1-14 without prejudice and submit new claims 15-18. Claims 15-18 are distinct from the '372 patent and are thus not for the "same invention" within 35 U.S.C. §101.

Applicants hereby request examination and allowance of new claims 15-18.

Respectfully submitted,
FITCH, EVEN, TABIN & FLANNERY

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